

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONTEV 05842 291124Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSA-01 INR-07 PA-02 OES-07 HA-05
/037 W

-----029861 291129Z /23

P R 281811Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC 5515

UNCLAS MONTEVIDEO 5842

USIAC

FOR: IOP/M, ILA, ARA FOR LISTER

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: "LA MANANA" REPORTS GOU WILL REJECT NATIONAL ACADEMY OF
SCIENCES REQUEST TO FREE MASSERA

1. NATIONALISTIC PRO-MILITARY LA MANANA TUESDAY (DEC 28) FRONT-
PAGED A REPORT FROM GOU "SPOKESMEN" UNDER THE HEADING "GOVERN-
MENT WILL NOT FREE MASSERA; THAT IS DOMAIN OF (MINISTRY OF)
JUSTICE."

2. FOLLOWING IS FULL ENGLISH TEXT OF THE LA MANANA REPORT WHICH
NEITHER OF THE OTHER TWO MONTEVIDEO MORNING PAPERS PUBLISHED.

(BEGIN TEXT)

"THE URUGUAYAN GOVERNMENT WILL NOT CONCEDE FREEDOM TO THE
FORMER FIRST SECRETARY OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY, JOSE LUIS MASSERA,
SINCE HE IS UNDER THE DOMAIN OF (THE MINISTRY OF) JUSTICE FOR HIS
ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES AND ONLY THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE CAN DECIDE ON
HIS SITUATION." SUCH WAS THE REPORT GIVEN TO LA MANANA YESTERDAY
EVENING BY SPOKESMEN FOR THE GOVERNMENT IN REFERENCE TO THE
FORTHCOMING VISIT TO URUGUAY FROM THE UNITED STATES, OF THE
MEMBER OF THE (NATIONAL) ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THAT COUNTRY,
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CHRISTIAN ANFINSEN, WHO IS PROBABLY INTERESTED IN THE SUBJECT
OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND WILL FURTHERMORE ASK FOR THE FREEDOM OF
MASSERA AND HIS WIFE.

THE ARRIVAL OF THIS NEW VISITOR, WHO ALSO WAS AWARDED THE
NOBEL PRIZE IN SCIENCE IN 1972, WAS EXPECTED AT FIRST IN MID-
MARCH ALTHOUGH HIS ARRIVAL FINALLY WILL TAKE PLACE NEXT JANUARY

OR IN THE FIRST DAYS OF FEBRUARY.

AT FIRST, THE U.S. ACADEMY OF SCIENCES PLANNED ANFINSEN'S VISIT FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, LETTING KNOWN HIS INTENTION TO GIVE SOME CONFERENCES HERE.

OUR AUTHORITIES IMMEDIATELY INFORMED THAT THIS PERIOD OF THE YEAR WAS NOT APPROPRIATE FOR THIS TYPE OF EVENT, DUE TO THE RECESS IMPOSED BY SUMMER VACATIONS ON ACTIVITIES IN THE COUNTRY. THE MONTH OF MARCH WAS THEN PROPOSED (FOR THE VISIT) BUT SURELY, ACCORDING TO REPORTS LAST NIGHT, THE MEMBER OF THE U.S. ACADEMY WILL COME DURING THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF THE YEAR.

AFTERWARDS ANOTHER TELEGRAM WAS RECEIVED FROM THE ACADEMY SAYING THAT CHRISTIAN ANFINSEN INTENDS TO REQUEST INFORMATION ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE CONVICTED FORMER FIRST SECRETARY OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY, JOSE LUIS MASSERA, INVOKING IN THIS CASE THAT THIS MEMBER OF INTERNATIONAL MARXISMS IS A MATHEMATICIAN.

OTHER FOREIGN REPORTS INDICATED LATER THAT ANFINSEN DEFINITELY WILL TRY TO FREE MASSERA AND HIS WIFE WHO IS ALSO UNDER ARREST AND PROSECUTED BY THE COMPETENT (MINISTRY OF) JUSTICE.

DURING THE PERIOD CHRISTIAN ANFINSEN MAY REMAIN IN URUGUAY, HE MAY HAVE AN INTERVIEW WITH THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE, DR. FERNANDO BAYARDO BENGUA, WHO HAS ALREADY MET, PREVIOUSLY, WITH A SUPPOSED UNCLASSIFIED

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS, WHICH ALSO CAME TO OUR COUNTRY TO INTEREST ITSELF IN HUMAN RIGHTS.

AT THAT MEETING OUR MINISTER WILL INFORM THE VISITOR ABOUT THE REAL SITUATION ABOUT ALLTHOSE ARESTED FOR THEIR ACTIVITIES AGAINST THE COUNTRY, AS WELL AS ABOUT THE CONDITION OF THOSE LEGALLY PROSECUTED FOR THEIR CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES.
(END OF TEXT)

3. FOR ARA LISTER: PLEASE BRING FOREGOING TO ATTENTION OF NAS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION YOU MAY OBTAIN FROM NAS REGARDING ITS RECENT DEALINGS WITH THE GOU (WHICH SEEMS TO BE SOURCE OF INFORMATION FOR THESE PRESS REPORTS) AND PARTICULARLY CONFIRMATION OF THE TIMING OF THE VISIT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PRISONERS RELEASE
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f0fc5dfc-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 121475
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: "LA MANANA" REPORTS GOU WILL REJECT NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES REQUEST TO FREE MASSERA
TAGS: SOPN, SHUM, UY, (MASSERA, JOSE LUIS)
To: USIA STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f0fc5dfc-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009